



TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

Transition Planning Commission

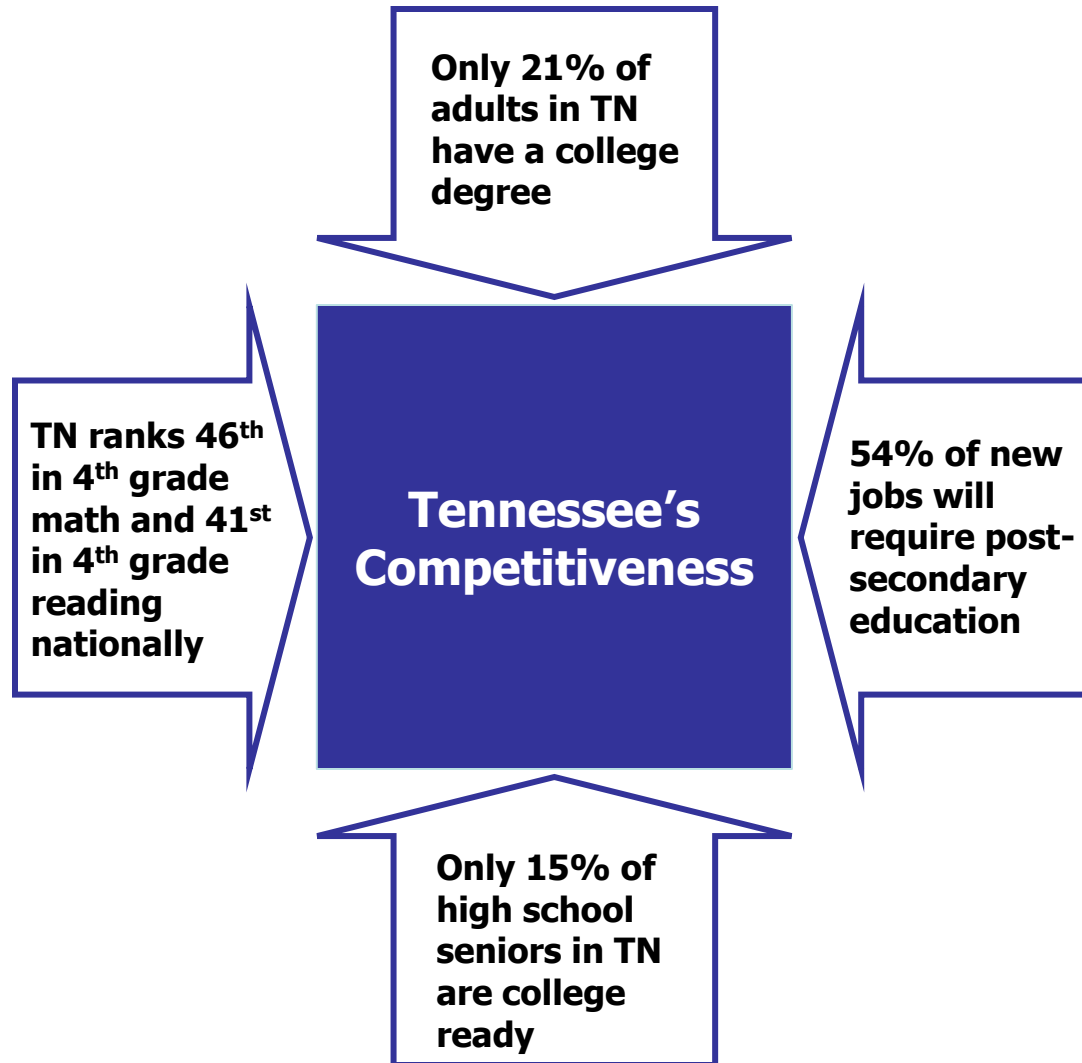
December 1, 2011

# **The Current State of Education in Tennessee**

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# Transforming Tennessee's education system must be a statewide priority

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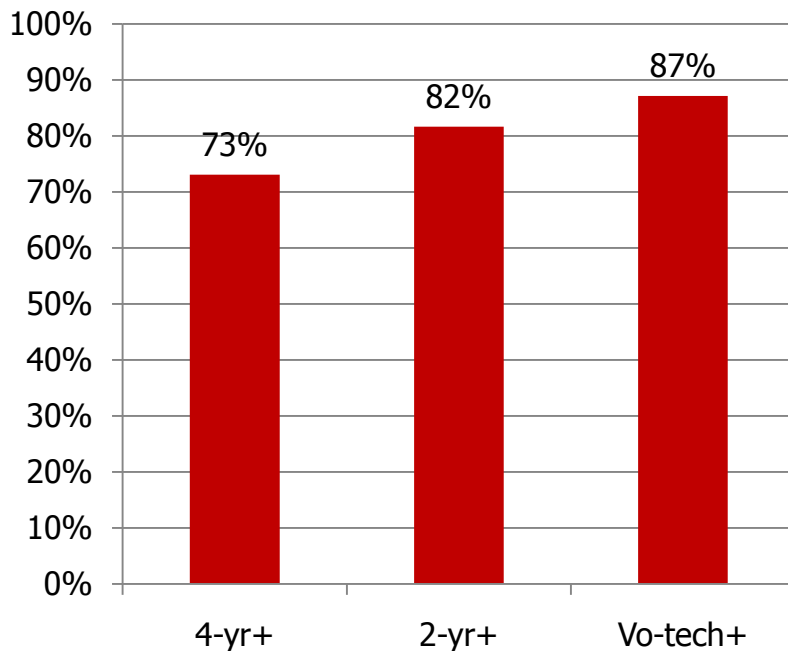


# Right now we are not preparing our students to achieve their aspirations

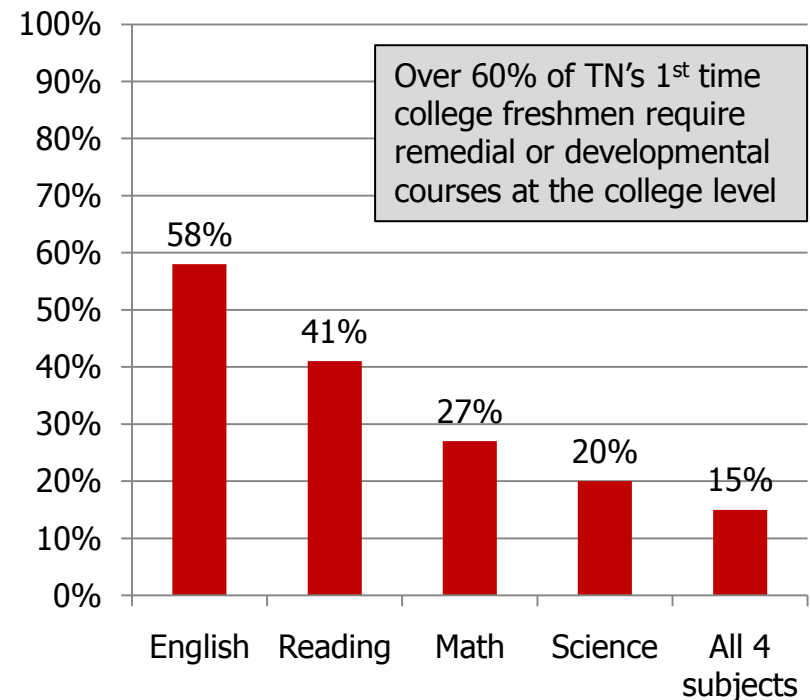
82% of TN's 2011 graduating class aspires to attain a 2-year degree or above

...but only 15% of TN's 2011 graduating class are college-ready in all 4 core subjects

**% of 2011 TN HS Graduates Aspiring To Earn A Post-Secondary Degree**



**% of 2011 TN HS Graduates Meeting College-Readiness Benchmarks**



# Tennessee lags the region and nation in key metrics

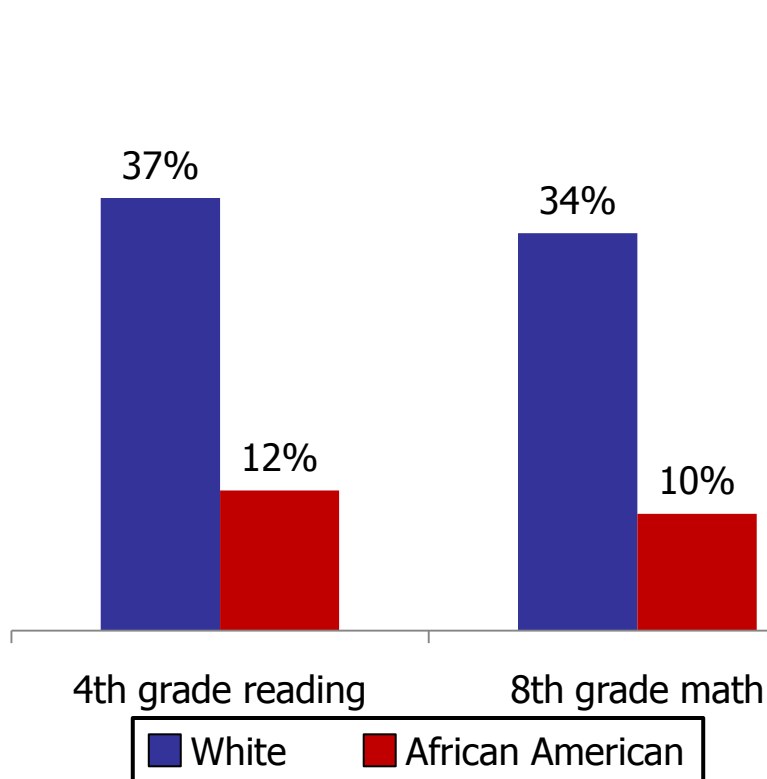
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Subject/ Grade Level	Tennessee's % Proficient	National Rank	Southeast Rank
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading	26%	41 <sup>st</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> of 10
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	30%	46 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> of 10
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading	27%	41 <sup>st</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> of 10
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	24%	45 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup> of 10

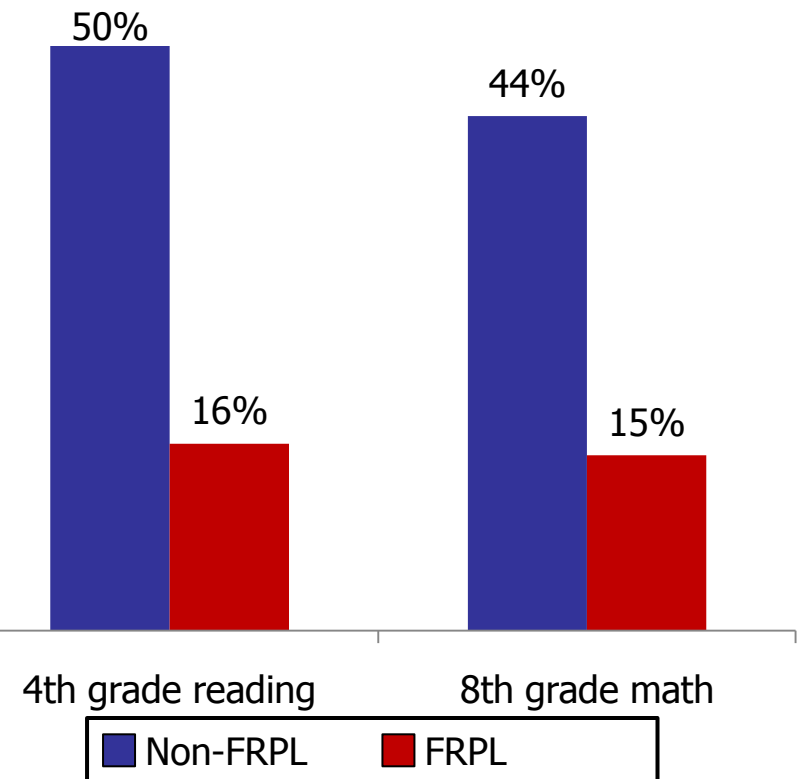
# Compounding overall low academic results, a stark racial and socioeconomic achievement gap exists

## 2011 NAEP Scores (% proficient or advanced)

### Gap between African American and White students



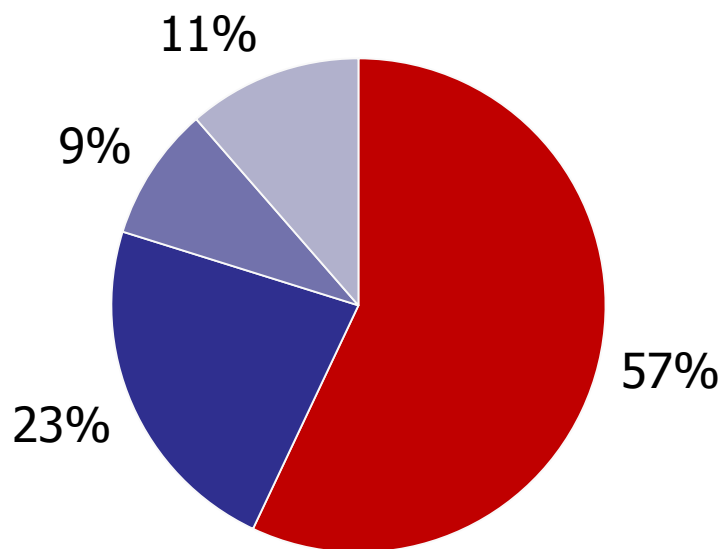
### Gap between free/reduced price lunch and non-FRPL students



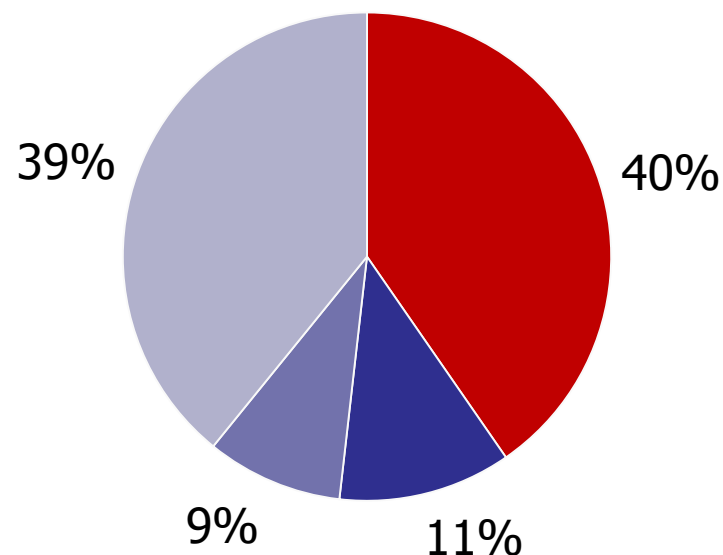
# Rural schools are clustered in the bottom half of schools

## Geographic breakdown of bottom 25<sup>th</sup> – 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of schools

Based on absolute TCAP scores



Based on % point gains



■ Rural ■ Urban ■ Suburban ■ Town

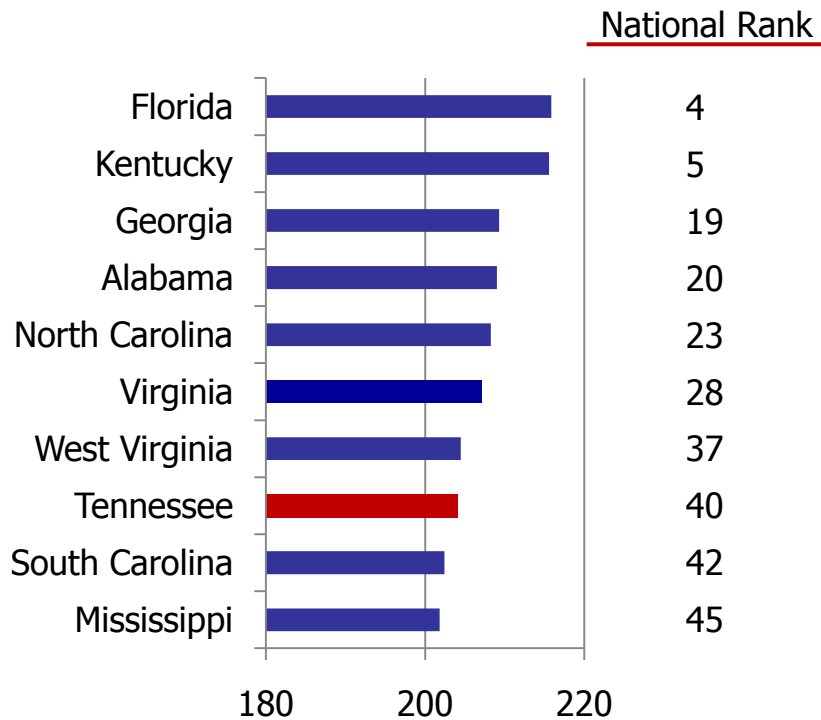
\* "2010-2011 TCAP Gains" represents the difference in the percent of students scoring proficient or advanced compared to the previous year.

Source: 2010-2011 TCAP Data

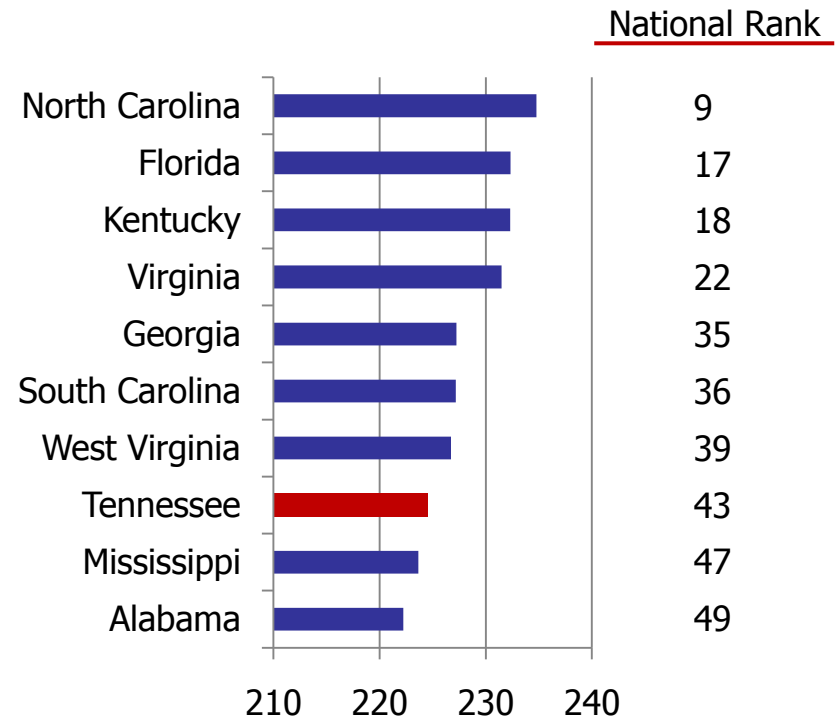
# This does not need to be the case: low-income students in other states are achieving more...

## 2011 4<sup>th</sup> grade NAEP scores for free/reduced price lunch students

### Reading



### Math

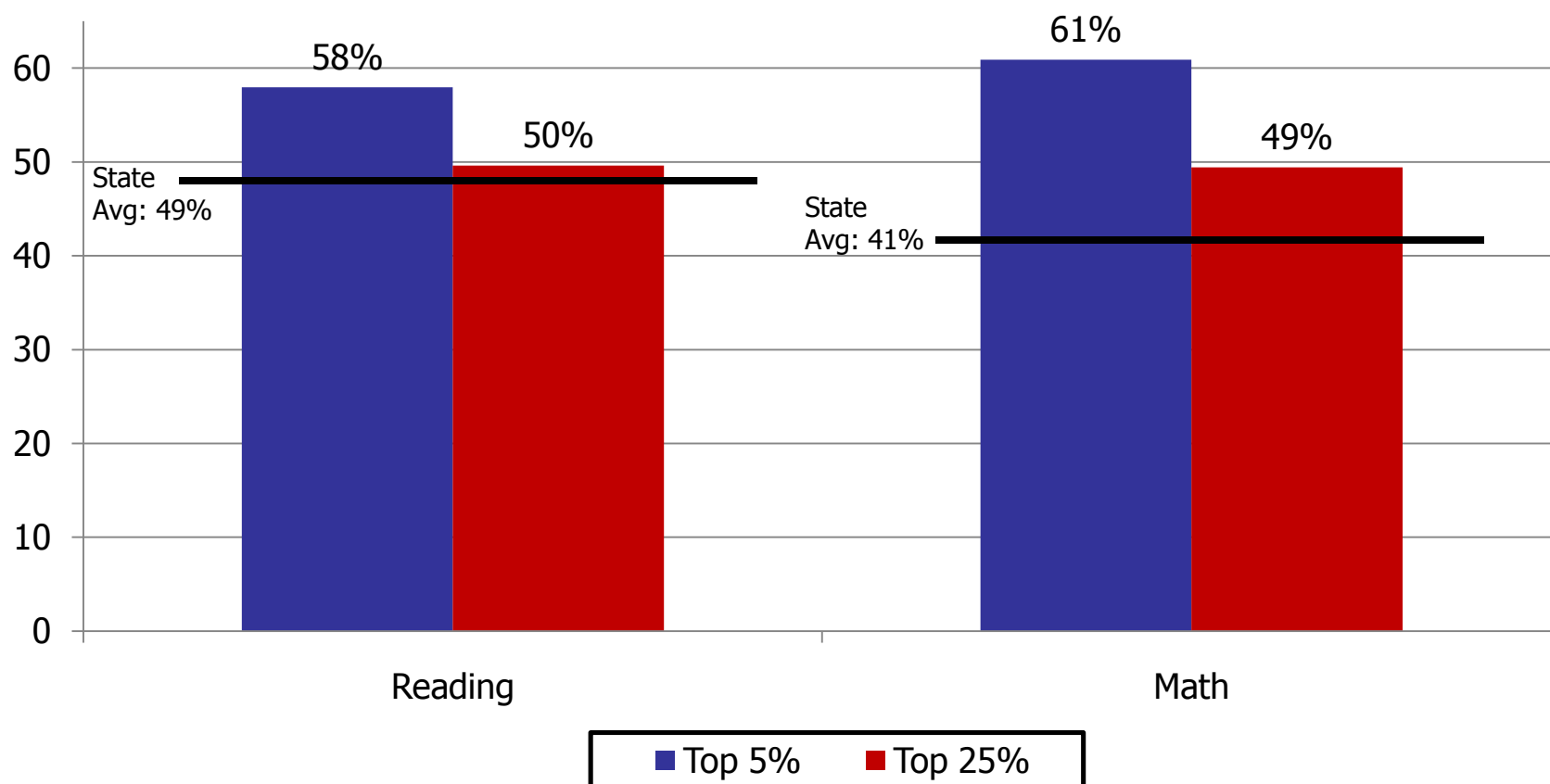




# ... and some TN schools are realizing dramatically better results with the same populations

## Achievement for schools with more than 75% low-income student populations

Percent proficient or advanced on 2011 TCAP



\*:  $\geq 75\%$  free/reduced lunch

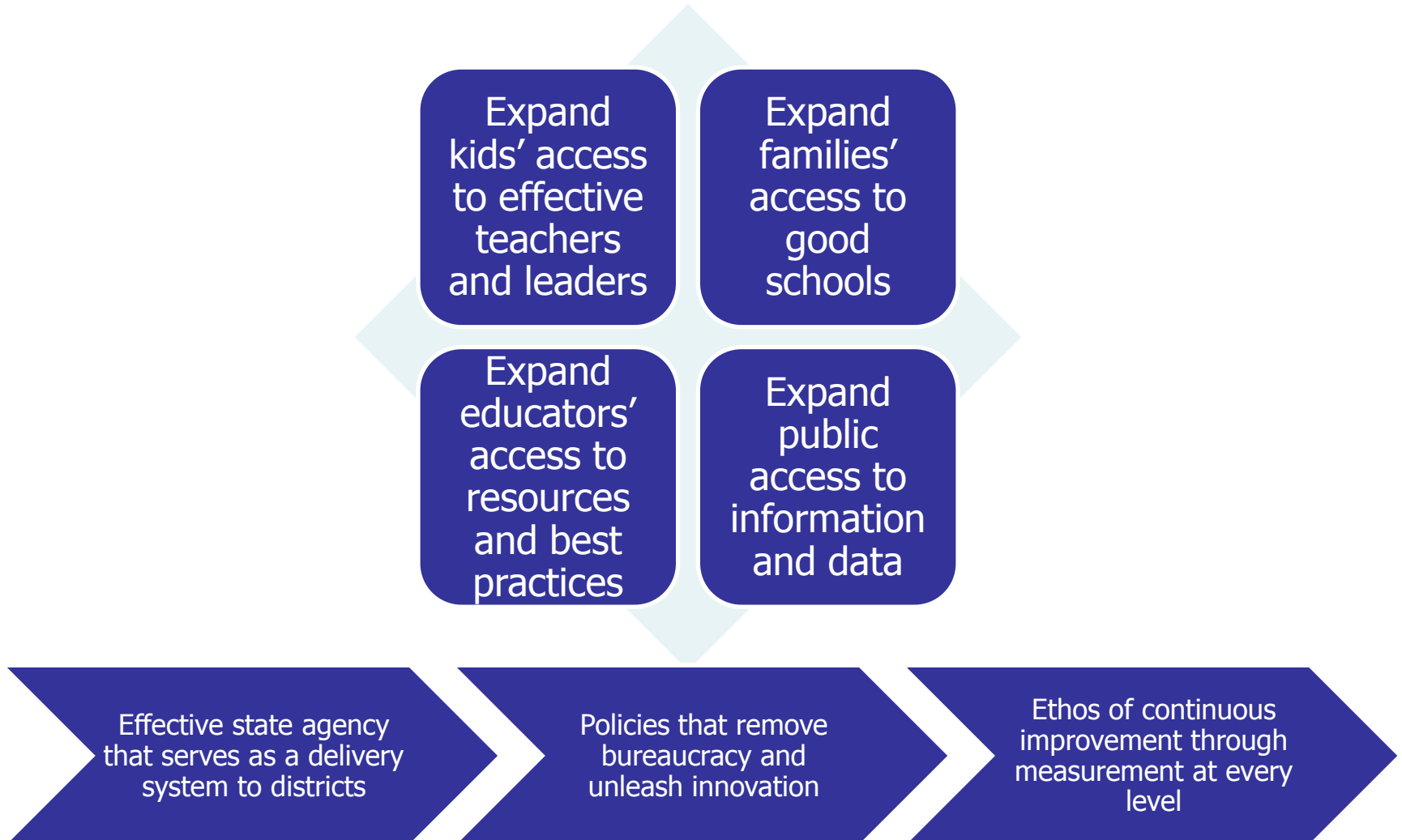
Source: 2010-2011 TCAP Data

# **Tennessee Department of Education Strategic Priorities**

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# We will pursue four strategic priorities to support districts in reaching their ambitious goals

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# **Role of the Planning Commission**

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# **The Planning Commission's role is crucial to ensuring we leverage this unique opportunity**

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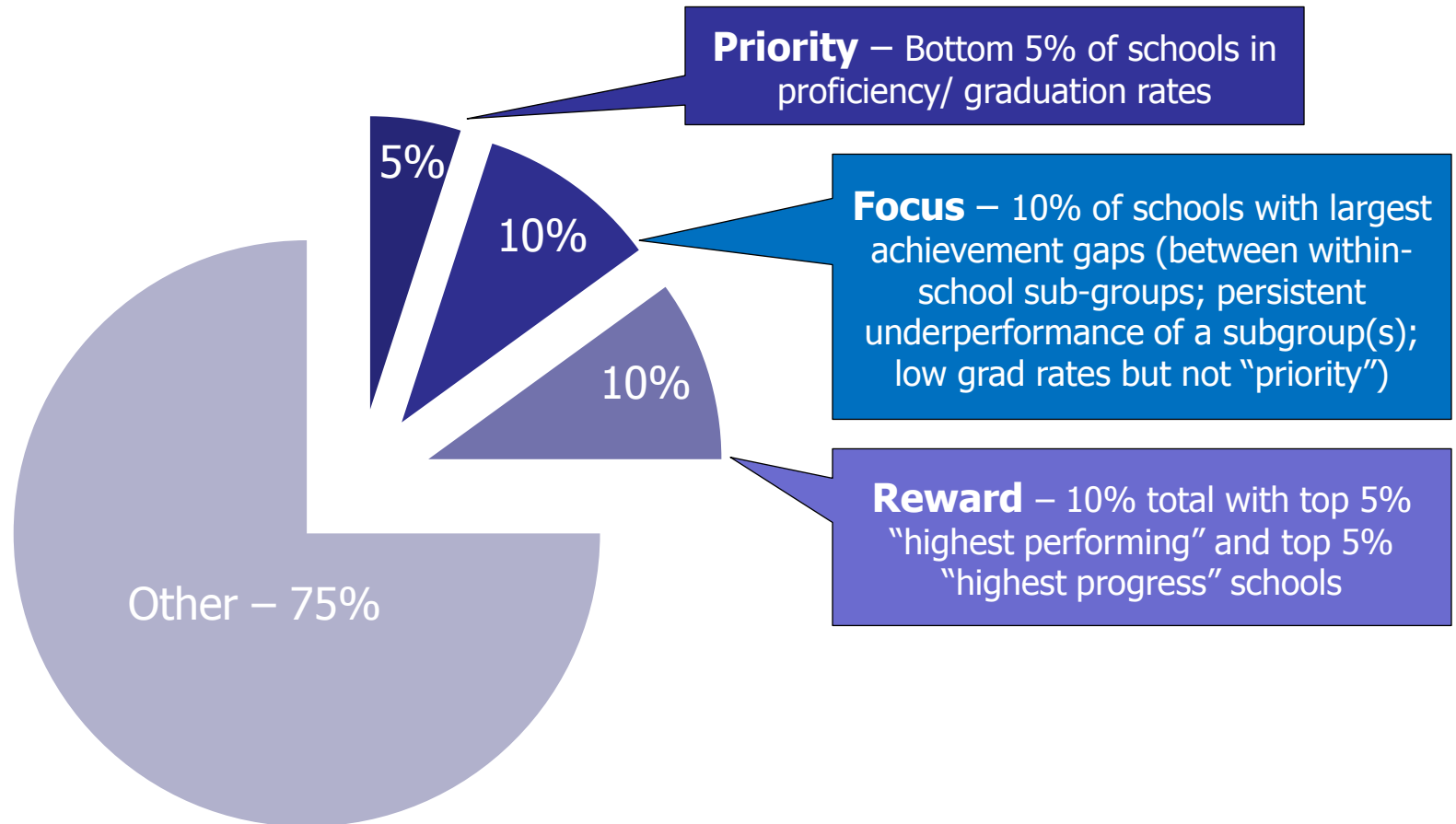
- The Planning Commission's role includes:
  - Creating a comprehensive plan for the transition to a consolidated school district in the 2013-14 school year.
  - Presenting the transition plan to the Department of Education for review and comment.
  - Presenting the transition plan to the Shelby County Board of Education.
- Through the transition plan, the Planning Commission will shape whether we use this moment to its fullest potential.
  - Aggressive turnaround for low-performing schools, through creation of a local innovation zone, locally driven school improvement, and partnership with the Achievement School District
  - Reshaped central office, with less bureaucracy and orientation toward high performance at every level

# **Priority schools and the work of the ASD**

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# We proposed a new system of accountability through our waiver application to USED

The waiver application rules required that we identify three categories of schools:



# **The new accountability system will shift which schools are eligible for the ASD**

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- Currently, there are 34 schools across the state that are ASD-eligible under the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) system, including 25 in Memphis
- If we continued under AYP, we project that by 2014-15 school year, 410 schools across the state would be ASD-eligible, including 105 in Memphis.
- Under the new system, the 85 priority schools across the state will be ASD-eligible. The draft list submitted with the waiver application included 68 schools in Memphis.

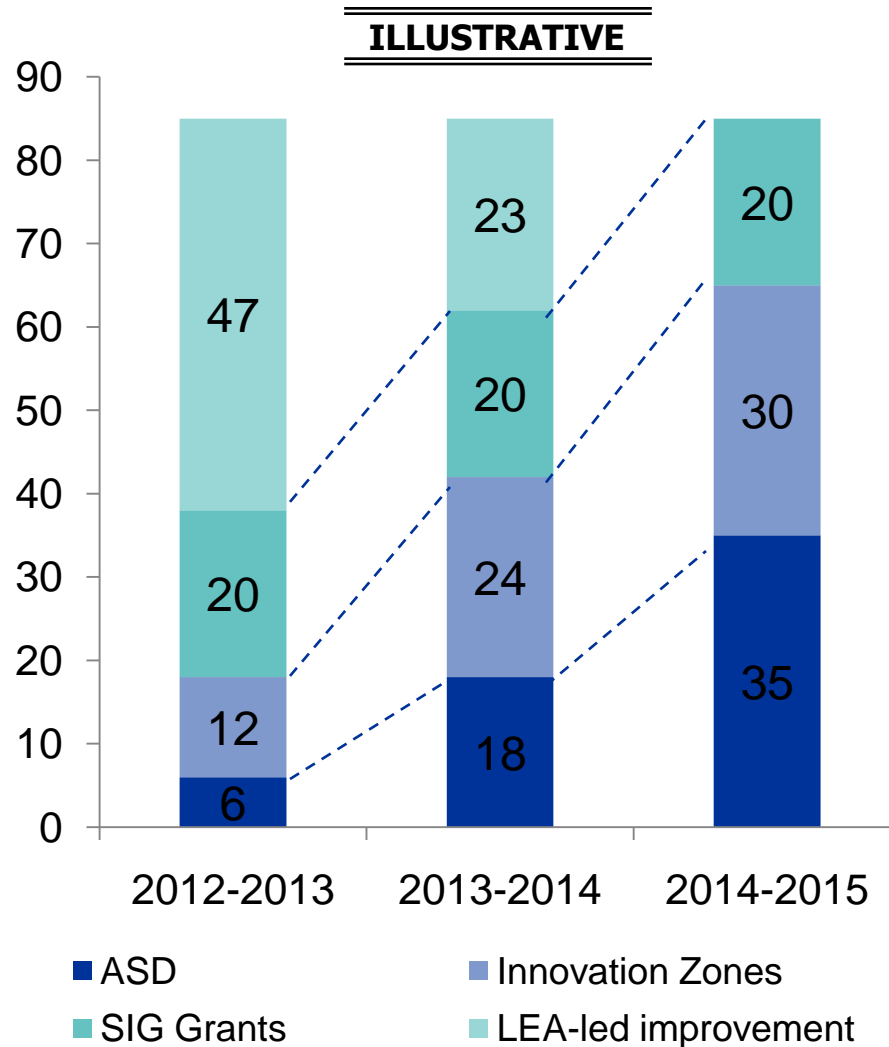


# **The new system also allows us to better tailor interventions for low-performing schools**

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- Each Priority school across the state will take one of four paths:
  - Entry into the Achievement School District
  - Entry into a district-run “innovation zone,” created by the district and approved by TDOE
  - Adoption of one of four School Improvement Grant turnaround models, through a competitive application process and TDOE approval
  - LEA-led school improvement planning

# The ASD plans to scale in a disciplined way over the next three years



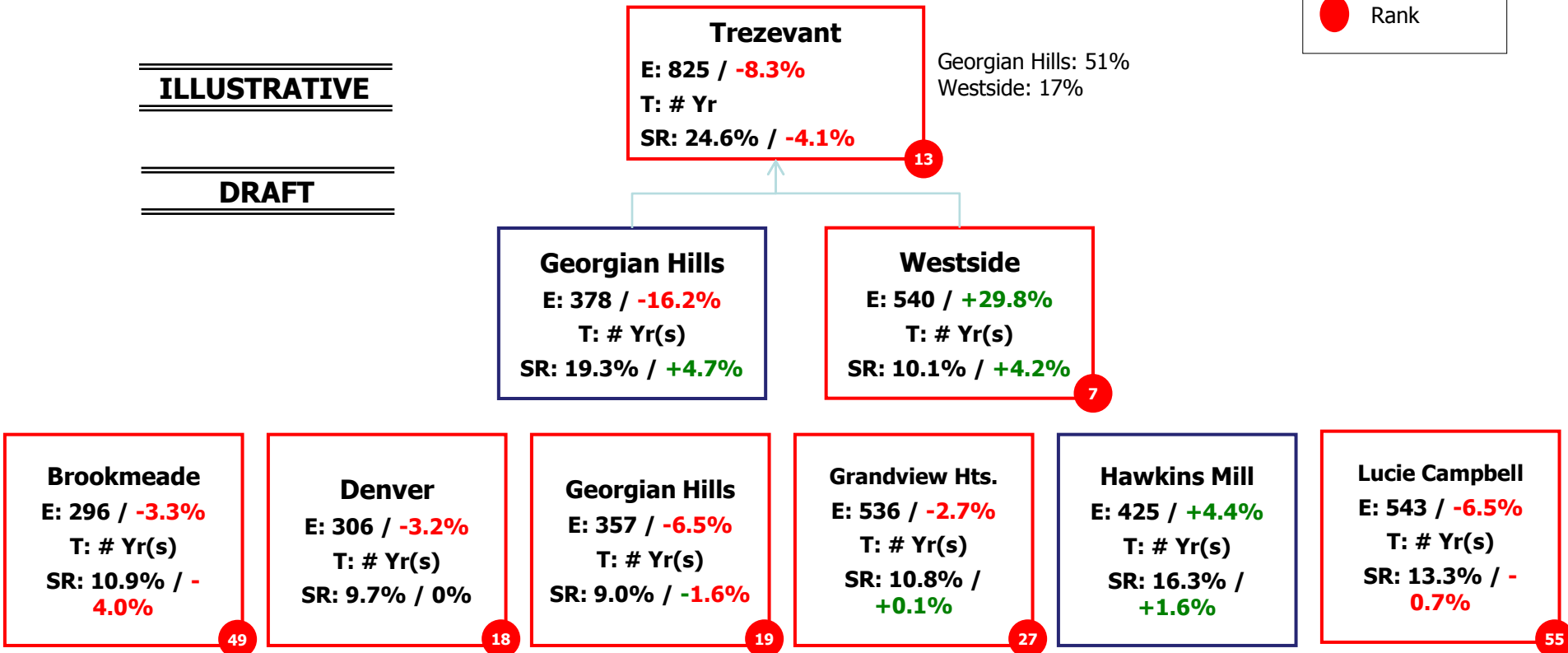
# The ASD will base its choice of schools on student achievement growth and feeder pattern analysis

## Memphis Feeder Pattern

ASD Eligible  
● Rank

**ILLUSTRATIVE**

**DRAFT**



# ASD's Intended Impact

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## VISION

**Tennessee Schools Transformed.  
Proving the possible with our bottom 5%.**

## MISSION

**Every School, Straight to the Top!  
10% Better Every Year ➡ Top 25% in Five Years.**

# **Ultimately, the majority of the work around Priority schools will be driven by the local community**

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- The Planning Commission has a tremendous opportunity to:
  - convene an important public conversation about what it will take, broadly, to turn around low-performing schools.
  - bring parties together to design a local innovation zone with the conditions needed to create real change.
  - Build lasting capacity in districts to manage change in an ongoing way.